

REMARKS

Supervisory Patent Examiner Donald P. Walsh has requested that the Applicant provide new revised remarks which are coextensive with the claims filed in the Amendment dated 10/27/03 in order to reconcile certain inconsistencies which may exist. Applicant therefore is providing the remarks below for purposes of implementing such reconciliation with respect to the pending claims appearing in the Amendment dated 10/27/03.

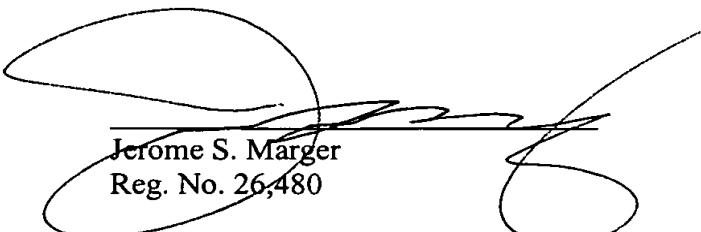
Claims 4, 11, 12, 14, 17, 20, 23, 24, 31, 34, 37 and 40 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Original independent claims 1 and 21 were rewritten (as currently amended independent claims 1 and 21) to include all of the limitations of respective allowable dependent claims 4 and 24. Claims 11, 12, 14, 17, 20, 23, 31, 34, 37 and 40 have been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as respective new claims 49-58. Claims 41-48 have been withdrawn. Claims 18, 19, 38 and 39 were previously cancelled.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-17, 20-23, 25-35, 37, 40, and 49-58 of this application is hereby solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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